

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Mourad BENMEHIDI,
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations
On waste management
at the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting of the CSD
02 March 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

Since the world Summits of Rio and Johannesburg, the management of solid wastes and sewage has been raised as an environment issue of critical concern and the international community has come to understand the priority to be accorded to waste prevention and minimization, reuse, recycling and the use of environmentally friendly alternative materials.

We are witnessing a paradigm shift in the sense that we should not any more look at waste as useless and costly but as a “resource” and economic opportunity, within a holistic and inclusive strategy that should be based on the 3R approach and the objective of zero waste.

Through partnerships, responsibility and advantages should be shared between the main actors, especially in terms of financial resources and technological access, managerial efficiency, environmental awareness and job creation in the activities linked to waste management.

From our perspective, it is clear that a well structured approach to support and assist the efforts made at regional and national levels, coupled with a strong commitment from member States in mainstreaming waste management in their policies and decision making processes within an inclusive and adapted frameworks, are prerequisites to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of delivering services in waste management, complemented by a strong involvement and awareness of the civil society.

Mr. Chairman,

Waste management and waste minimization represent a serious challenge for all countries. However, developing countries, where economies and urbanization are growing rapidly, are facing a number of challenges dealing mainly with the lack of skilled human resources and institutions at national and local levels, financial problems of waste management services and facilities, the lack of technological capabilities to introduce and operate recycling schemes and systems and the insufficient communication and commitment of all stakeholders in the local municipalities.

Therefore, there is an urging need to assist developing countries in the development and implementation of policy instruments and mechanisms that encourage waste prevention

and minimization, based on an inclusive approach and a strong partnership in building local capabilities to address the flows of different types of wastes within the context of sustainable development.

Within the same vein, it is obvious that the implementation of such policies depend essentially on the new and additional financial resources to dedicate for a sustainable waste management in developing countries. Such resources should be mobilized at international, regional and national levels.

On the other side, it is highly recommended to provide technological assistance in capacity building and to develop a wide approach of dissemination and exchange of information and good practices at all levels. Such strategy should be supported by strong campaigns in terms of education and public awareness aiming to changing behavioral attitudes and involving civil society strongly in such an endeavor.

Thank you.